

Tetbury Rural District
Council.

ANNUAL REPORT
— OF THE —
Medical Officer of Health.

1937.

Tetbury Rural District.

ANNUAL REPORT of the Medical Officer of Health for 1937.

DR. H. F. W. ADAMS.

This report for 1937, similar to those for the past 12 years, is an ordinary report.

It is again satisfactory to report that the district was comparatively free from infectious and tuberculosis cases, only 19 of the former and 3 of the latter being notified.

Marked progress was made with housing, scavenging, etc., and the inspections of all kinds in the district most efficiently carried out.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area (acres)	...	...	...	...	...	31,781
Population (Census 1931)	...	...	...	...	...	5,732
and estimated 1936	...	...	...	...	...	5,956
ditto 1937	...	...	...	...	...	5,915
Number of houses inhabited (Census 1931)	...	...	...	...	...	1,451
				(end of 1936)	...	1,490
				(end of 1937)	...	1,552
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	...	£23,435
Sum represented by a penny rate	...	...	...	...	...	£112

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

LIVE BIRTHS		M.	F.	Total
Legitimate	...	52	35	87
Illegitimate	...	4	2	6
Birth Rate (R.G.) 15.6				

STILL BIRTHS

Legitimate	...	2	1	3
Illegitimate	...	1	—	1
Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births, 16.5				

DEATHS	...	...	33	33	66
Death Rate (R.G.) 11.1					

Number of Women dying in, or in

consequence of childbirth...from Sepsis	...	Nil
from other causes		Nil

Deaths of Infants under one year of age per 1,000
births:—

Legitimate, 57.4: Illegitimate, Nil; Total, 53.6

Deaths from Measles (all ages)	...	...	Nil
„ „ Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	...	Nil
„ „ Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	...	...	Nil
„ „ Cancer	...	...	5

CAUSES OF DEATH IN 1937.

DISEASE.	Males.	Females.
Influenza	1	2
Tuberculosis of Resp. System	1	1
Other Tuberculosis	1	...
Cancer	3	2
Cerebral Hæmorrhage	2	4
Heart Disease	8	9
Other Circulatory Diseases ... ..	..	2
Bronchitis	1	2
Pneumonia (all forms)	1	2
Peptic Ulcer	1	...
Digestive Diseases	2	1
Nephritis ... ..	...	2
Congenital Causes, etc.	4	1
Senility	2	1
Suicide ... ..	...	1
Other violence	1	1
Other defined Causes	5	2
All causes	33	33

There is a welcome decrease in the deaths from Cancer : five instead of fourteen in 1936.

Influenza caused no fatality.

Deaths from Diseases of the Circulatory System is markedly high : 25 out of 66 deaths.

DEATH RATE :—11.1 is a good figure, although it is above that for 1936, viz. 9.4 (a very low figure). It is below that for England and Wales, 12.4.

BIRTH RATE :—15.6 is a good figure : that for England and Wales being 14.9.

INFANT MORTALITY :—53.6 is somewhat high for a rural district, although it is below that for England and Wales, 58. It is caused by the deaths of 5 children under one year of age : 4 males and 1 female, all legitimate.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH

SERVICES IN THE DISTRICT.

COTTAGE HOSPITAL.

This extended hospital, with up-to-date accommodation, continues to do good work ; there is ample accommodation for the district.

Fever cases are accommodated at the Cirencester Isolation Hospital.

Accommodation for Smallpox cases is provided at Elmstone, near Hardwicke, on the Cheltenham-Tewkesbury road.

There is no hospital accommodation for Tuberculosis, or for children.

Some maternity cases are dealt with at the converted P.L. Institution in Tetbury.

The Tuberculosis cases are accommodated in Standish Sanatorium.

The nursing in the district is carried out by Nurses of the District Nursing Association, supervised by a whole-time County Nurse.

Pathological and Bacteriological Examinations are carried out in the laboratories of Gloucester General Hospital.

Outfits for taking specimens can be supplied to practitioners by the Medical Officer of Health.

The Public Health Staff for the district consists of one Medical Officer of Health (full-time) and one Sanitary Inspector (full-time).

LEGISLATION IN FORCE.

Public Health Act, 1875.

Infectious Diseases Notification Act, 1899, Bye-laws.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT.

WATER SUPPLY.

TETBURY.—During the year the pump of No. 1 bore-hole was overhauled by Messrs. The Harland Engineering Co., Ltd. The eight stage centrifugal pump with its 200 feet of shafting was dismantled, cleaned, fitted with new bearings and reassembled. It is now working quite satisfactory.

The auxiliary pump at No. 2 bore-hole was used while this work was being carried out and the supply was well maintained.

Several complaints have been received during the year regarding the lack of pressure at the Market Place and Northfield at certain times during the week. This is due to the increasing number of houses being supplied in the Parish and the matter is receiving the attention of the Parochial Committee.

At frequent intervals night tests were made to detect any leakage which may be causing serious waste of water and four defective services have been repaired during the year.

140 yards of 4" and 23 yards of 3" cast iron water main have been laid during the year to supply 49 houses at the new Hampton Street Housing Scheme.

A portion of the Magdalen Meadow water supply was found to be in a very bad condition and consequently 128 yards of 1½" galvanised main had to be re-laid.

The average daily consumption has risen from 36,000 gallons to approximately 39,000 gallons, and the total number of new connections to the Council's mains during the year is nine.

TETBURY PUMPING STATION.

Engines.				Pumps.		
	No.	B H.P.		No.	Delivery	
Ruston & Hornsby Horizontal Crude Oil	1	20		Harland 8-stage Centrifugal Pump	1	9,000 gallons per hour
Ditto	1	28		Harland 11-stage Centrifugal Pump	1	6,000 gallons per hour

DIDMARTON, LONG NEWNTON & SHIPTON MOYNE.—All these Parishes are supplied by the West Gloucester Water Co. and no shortage has occurred during the year.

CHERINGTON.—The Cherington water supply has been adequate for the needs of the village during the year.

ASHLEY.—The village of Culkerton in the Parish of Ashley obtains an ample supply of water from the Rodmarton Estate.

AVENING.—No shortage of water has occurred during the year.

BOXWELL with LEIGHTERTON.—Owing to the heavy burden on the Parish, the village of Leighterton has not yet been provided with the water supply which it needs.

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE.

TETBURY MAIN SEWER OUTFALL.

These works are dealing with all the sewage from the Parish of Tetbury quite satisfactorily, but a certain amount of work will have to be carried out in the near future in connection with the irrigation beds, which have now been in use for many years and the time is fast approaching when they will have to be relaid.

The use of Alumino Ferric at these outfalls has helped to keep the effluent up to an excellent standard.

The works are kept under frequent supervision and all channels, tanks, etc., are kept in good condition. The undergrowth is cleared away as the necessity arises.

TETBURY DRAINAGE.

During the year 288 yards of 6" and 343 yards of 9" sewers were laid to sewer the 49 houses at the Hampton Street Housing Scheme and eight new connections have been made to the Council's sewers.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

Conversion of privy vaults to earth closets ...	6
Conversion of earth closets to water closets...	2
New water closets	23
Existing house drains connected to the Council's sewer	2
New connections to the Council's sewer ...	8

RIVERS AND STREAMS.

A serious nuisance was found to exist at Avening arising from the discharge of house drains into the brook. The several owners have been requested to disconnect the drains from the stream and the nuisance is now being abated.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

Scavenging in the Parish of Tetbury has been carried out as in previous years. The Contractor has provided a more suitable covering for his motor vehicle, and the collection is now being carried out quite satisfactorily.

The collection of house refuse has also been carried out in the Parish of Avening, but the Parish Council is responsible for the scheme.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

There are three fish frying premises in this area, all of which are situate in the Parish of Tetbury. No nuisance has been caused by any of these premises.

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS & WORKPLACES.

Premises. (1)	Inspections. (2)	Number of Written Notices. (3)	Occupiers Prosecuted. (4)
Factories (including Factory Laundries)	2	—	—
Workshops (including Workshop Laundries)	53	1	—
Workplaces (other than Out- workers' Premises) ...	—	—	—
Total ...	55	1	—

REGISTERED WORKSHOPS.

Bakehouses	5
Butchers	4
Laundries	3
Gas Works	1
Tailors	4
Motor Engineers	8
Wheelwrights	1
Blacksmiths	7
Builders	2
Carpenters	7
Painters and Decorators ...	2
Bootmakers	2
Timber Merchants	2
Hairdressers	3
Stone Mason Yard	1
Saddler... ..	2
Printing Works	1
Millers	1
Metal Workers	1

NUMBERS INSPECTED OF EACH OF THE FOLLOWING :

	No on Register.	No. Inspected.	Total No. of Inspections.
(a) Common Lodging Houses	—	—	—
(b) Slaughter Houses ...	2	2	47
(c) Bakehouses ...	5	5	7
(d) Dairies, Cowsheds, Milk-shops ...	66	66	136
(e) Canal Boats ...	—	—	—
(f) Workshops ...	52	11	11
(g) Outworkers' Residences	—	—	—

GENERAL.

(a) Number of complaints received ...	23
(b) Number of nuisances reported to District Council ...	3
(1) Total ...	3
(2) Swine ...	Nil
(c) Total number of nuisances abated ...	21
(d) Total number of preliminary notices served ...	27
(e) Total number of Statutory notices served ...	Nil
(f) Total number of summonses taken out ...	Nil
(g) Total number of convictions ...	Nil
(h) Number of houses disinfected ...	8 dwelling houses, 1 school
(i) Method of disinfection used...	Formalin spray and fumigation

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

Particulars of action taken ...	None
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SWIMMING POOLS AND BATHS.

Particulars of Pools and Baths in area and action taken to ensure satisfactory condition of water ...	None
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HOUSING CONDITIONS.

1. INSPECTION OF DWELLING HOUSES DURING THE YEAR.

	1936	1937
(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects [under Public Health or Housing Acts]	48	222
(b) Number of inspections made	70	445
(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses included under sub-head (1) above which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Consolidated) Regulations, 1925	18	145
(b) Number of inspections made	37	304
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	15	17
(4) Number of dwelling-houses [exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head] found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	3	142

2. REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES.

(1) Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers... ..	3	23
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3. ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR.

(a) *Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936.*

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	Nil	7
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:—		
(a) By Owners	Nil	7
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owner...	Nil	Nil

1936 1927

(b) *Proceedings under Public Health Acts.*

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	Nil	Nil
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notice :—		
(a) By Owners	Nil	Nil
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners	Nil	Nil

(c) *Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936.*

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	Nil	27
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	Nil	Nil

(d) *Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936.*

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	Nil	Nil
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	Nil	Nil

4. OVERCROWDING.

1937

(a) (1) Number of dwelling-houses overcrowded at the end of the year	24
(2) Number of families dwelling therein	24
(3) Number of persons dwelling therein	144
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	1
(c) (1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	18
(2) Number of persons concerned in such cases	101
(d) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding	Nil

During the year 1209 houses of the working classes in this area were measured up and recorded for the purposes of overcrowding.

Although 24 cases are still outstanding, 15 of these have accepted Council Houses and will be occupying the same early in the New Year.

COUNCIL HOUSES.

The Council have 43 houses situate in the following parishes :—

Ashley	...	...	...	2
Avening	...	...	...	12
Boxwell-with-Leighterton				5
Tetbury—1919	...	...		12
„ 1924	...	...		12
Total ...				<hr/> 43 <hr/>

The maintenance of Council Houses has encroached upon much of the time and a great deal of repairs have had to be carried out during the year, but all are now in good condition. Of the 43 houses in the district, 12 at Avening, 2 at Ashley and 24 at Tetbury have been decorated externally this year.

The building of 39 houses and 10 aged persons' dwellings at Hampton Street, Tetbury, is nearing completion and it is hoped that all will be completed early in the New Year.

NEW BUILDINGS.

62 new dwellings were erected during the year, including 49 Council Houses and 13 houses built by private enterprise.

These dwellings, together with miscellaneous buildings and additions, were distributed among the various parishes as follows :—

Parish	New Dwelling houses.	Alterations and additions to existing houses.	Garages.	Miscellaneous.
Ashley ...	—	6	—	—
Avening ...	2	—	3	3
Cherington...	—	—	3	—
Shipton Moyne ...	3	—	—	1
Tetbury ...	55	5	3	—
Tetbury Upton ...	2	—	—	2
Westonbirt with Lasborough ...	—	—	—	3
Total	62	11	9	9

Number of plans approved during the year—40

Number of inspections in connection with new buildings are as follows :—

Footings ...	59
Damp proof courses ...	62
Intermediate inspections ...	359
Drain testing ...	82
Final inspections ...	20

RAG & FLOCK ACTS, 1911 & 1923.

There are no premises in this area which are governed by the provisions of the Acts.

RATS & MICE (DESTRUCTION) ACTS.

The Tetbury refuse tip has been baited with reliable rat poison, but it is constantly infested. It would be advisable for this Council to consider employing a Rat Catcher under the County Scheme, which enables Local Authorities and private individuals to employ professional Rat Catchers at a low cost.

It is the duty of Occupiers and Owners under the provisions of the Acts to rid their premises of the vermin.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

MILK SUPPLY.

Parishes.	Producers & Retailers.	Producers.	Retail Purveyors.	Total.
Ashley	1	2	—	3
Avening	3	4	—	7
Beverston... ..	2	1	—	3
Boxwell with Leighterton	3	2	—	5
Cherington	1	3	—	4
Didmarton	2	2	—	4
Kingscote... ..	—	4	—	4
Long Newnton	2	5	—	7
Ozleworth	1	3	—	4
Shipton Moyne	—	2	—	2
Tetbury	5	2	1	8
Tetbury Upton	4	8	—	12
Westonbirt-with-Lasborough	1	1	—	2
	25	39	1	65

Number of premises carrying on the trade ...	65
„ „ registered during the year	4
Licence to produce Tuberculin Tested milk ...	9
„ „ Accredited milk	14
Number of cowsheds and dairies inspected ...	76
„ „ „ recorded and tabulated	65
„ „ „ required cleansing	28
Approximate number of dairy cows	1630

The occupiers of 25 registered premises have been notified of the following defects during the year :—

Defective drainage	...	31
Defective floors	...	26
Insufficient lighting	...	16
Defective walls	...	1
Defective yards	...	1
Manure heaps to remove		9

MEAT AND OTHER FOOD.

49 inspections of the two slaughter-houses and retail shops were made during the year. They were quite satisfactory.

The following diseased and unsound meat was found to be unfit for human consumption and was condemned and destroyed :—

Meat	...	540 lbs.
Livers	...	3 „

The number of carcasses inspected during the year was :—

Carcasses.		No. inspected.
Bovines	...	63
Calves	...	3
Pigs	...	73
Sheep	...	161

		300

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The total number of notifiable diseases, as already mentioned, was 19. Of these—

- 1 was Erysipelas.
- 9 Pneumonias (3 deaths occurring).
- 1 Puerperal Pyrexia.
- 1 Infantile Paralysis (a serious case in a school girl).
- 1 Malaria (contracted in Kenya) : slight.
- 6 Scarlet Fevers (3 treated in hospital).

The ages of the Scarlet Fever cases were :

Males.	Females.
22	5
	7
	8
	10
	43

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR.

DISEASE.	Total Cases Notified	Cases admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Small Pox ...	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever ...	6	6	—
Diphtheria ...	—	—	—
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)	—	—	—
Puerperal Fever ...	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	1	1	—
Pneumonia ...	9	3	3
Other diseases generally notifiable—			
Malaria... ..	1	—	—
Acute Polionyelitis ...	1	1	—
Other diseases notifiable locally—Erysipelas ...	1	—	—

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

Cases notified.	Treated at home.	Treated in hospital.	
Vision unimpaired.	Vision impaired.	Total blindness.	Deaths.

TUBERCULOSIS.

		NEW CASES.				DEATHS.			
		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
Age	Periods	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5		0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0
10		0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
15		0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
20		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
25		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
35		0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
45		0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
55		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
65 and upwards		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Totals ...		0	0	3	0	1	1	1	0

TUBERCULOSIS DEATHS.

Three occurred in 1937 :—

One male pulmonary aged 46.

One female „ aged 17.

One male non-pulmonary aged 43.

